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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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Teletype Communications at the Czechoslovak
Trade Mission in East Berlin

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1. There is one teletype machine in the offices of the Czechoslovak Trade Mission (CTM) in East Berlin, which is serviced by personnel of the East Berlin Main Post Office. As of October 1954, the following persons maintained and inspected the machine:

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a. Rudi Oschatz,

b. Holzmueller (fnu) - Mechanic

c. Koehler (fnu) - Mechanic

d. The CTM switchboard is inspected by Herzog (fnu),

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2. Messages sent from Berlin to Prague usually are composed as follows:

"BERLIN 24 - (date), (hour), (teletype operator's initials, mark or number), addressee (by number), text of message, and ending."

These are the most frequently used numbers,
in use by the Czechoslovakian export-import organizations trading with
East Germany:

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Metalimex	205	Strojimport	165
Obzamini	289	Metrans	124/140
State Film	270	Obmini	58
Obzamini Vienna	1702	Artia	163
Koospol	127/225	Motokov	247/214
Centrokomise	179	Glasexport	176
Strojexport	171	Kovo	214, 144, 283

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Centrotex	130/180	Technoexport	204
Ligna	166	Chemapol	286
Jablonex	0093	Liberec	33
Ferromet	211	Keramika	118
Fragoexport	197		

3. Following are a few of the cryptonyms used in teletype correspondence: They are:

"Kota" - for Kocour (fnu), Czech Vice-Minister of Foreign Trade
 "Kozink" - for Wilhelm Hostenrauch, East German First Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade

The Czech and East German export and import companies adopt their own code words or cryptonyms for various goods and prices referring to these goods. Chemapol, the Czech mono oly dealing with chemicals, recently relaxed the requirement for the use of such code names in teletype correspondence and now uses clear text when referring to chemicals. However, the most frequently used system of cryptographically referring to barter and trade items is to use the index number under which the item is listed in the applicable trade agreement (Czech : Polozka cislo).

4. The CTM switchboard is automatic. Allegedly of Western make, it was supplied by the Ministry of Foreign Trade in Prague in 1953. The installation was complicated and completed only in early 1954. The switchboard has five independent trunk lines. The installation work was done by the VEB RFT Telephonanlagen, Berlin, Warschauer Platz. However, the installation of lines into the offices of Koutek - Chief of the Trade Mission), Kadlecsek (fnu), and Cervinkova (fnu - Koutek's secretary) was done by a private firm, name unknown. Only Cervinkova knew the telephone number of this firm and kept it secret. Allegedly the reason for the above arrangement was that a monitoring device was added to some of the phones.
5. The Fernsprech-Rechnungsamt Berlin on Jaegerstrasse handles the long-distance calls of the CTM. In order to place a long-distance call to Prague, the Mission switchboard operator has to dial 04, give a Mission telephone number (usually 200326), the permit number (984) for such calls and the code-word, which was "Freundschaft". This replaced the former codeword "Bohumil". The long-distance operator checks the telephone, the license number and code-word to ascertain if the caller is authorized to place international calls. If she is satisfied, the call is put through in 10 to 15 minutes. In the past, members of the CTM frequently used the Mission number to place private calls which was strictly against regulations and is no longer tolerated by the postal authorities.

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